

AFTER



Bridge on Davis Creek, Grays Harbor County, replaces culvert allowing fish to pass freely.



BEFORE

Family Forest Fish Passage Program

2013 IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

A Cost-Share
Program for Small
Forest Landowners
to Improve Fish
Passage





Jim and Carol Wolf on their FFFPP bridge, watching fish swim in their stream for the first time.



Construction for a FFFPP bridge on Goliath Creek, opening 4.5 miles of fish habitat.

Investment in Removal of Fish Barriers Pays Dividends



Small forest landowners own 3.2 million acres of Washington's

forests—about half of the private forestland in the state. Their income helps contribute to Washington State's annual \$16 billion forestry economy and helps sustain many rural communities. At the same time, these family forests provide cold, clean water to thousands of miles of fish-bearing streams. Crossing those streams, in many cases, are roads.

Road culverts and other stream-crossing structures that are aging, too small, or improperly installed can block fish from reaching their spawning grounds. Fish barriers can also impede the migration of young salmon from forest streams to the ocean.

The 2001 Forests and Fish rules require all forest landowners eliminate fish barriers on

streams associated with forest road crossings. To a small forest landowner, the cost can be substantial and increase the risk of selling their land to developers.

Recognizing these potential impacts, the 2003 Washington State Legislature created the Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP). FFFPP helps reduce the regulatory and monetary burdens on small forest landowners to restore habitat for fish.

Forest landowners have been working with the state to take action. Since 2003, FFFPP has paid dividends: 679 miles of fish habitat have been reconnected, and 296 fish barriers have been eliminated. Successful projects increase awareness to the benefits of fixing fish passage and encourage others to get involved.

Jobs in the Environment

Hundreds of private owners of forestland who want to do their part for salmon recovery may be eligible for more help than they imagined was available. A new round of legislative funding will allow the program to complete approximately 100 projects during the next two years. During the 2013 FFFPP construction season, 48 fish passage projects will be completed, reconnecting 179 miles of habitat for fish. For the 2014 FFFPP construction season, an estimated 52 projects will be completed.

FFFPP USES LOCAL CONTRACTORS, BRINGING JOBS TO COMMUNITIES STATEWIDE.

It is estimated that for every \$100,000 invested in fish passage projects, 1.57 local jobs are created during the construction season. This estimate does not include the additional indirect jobs created like culvert and bridge manufacturing.

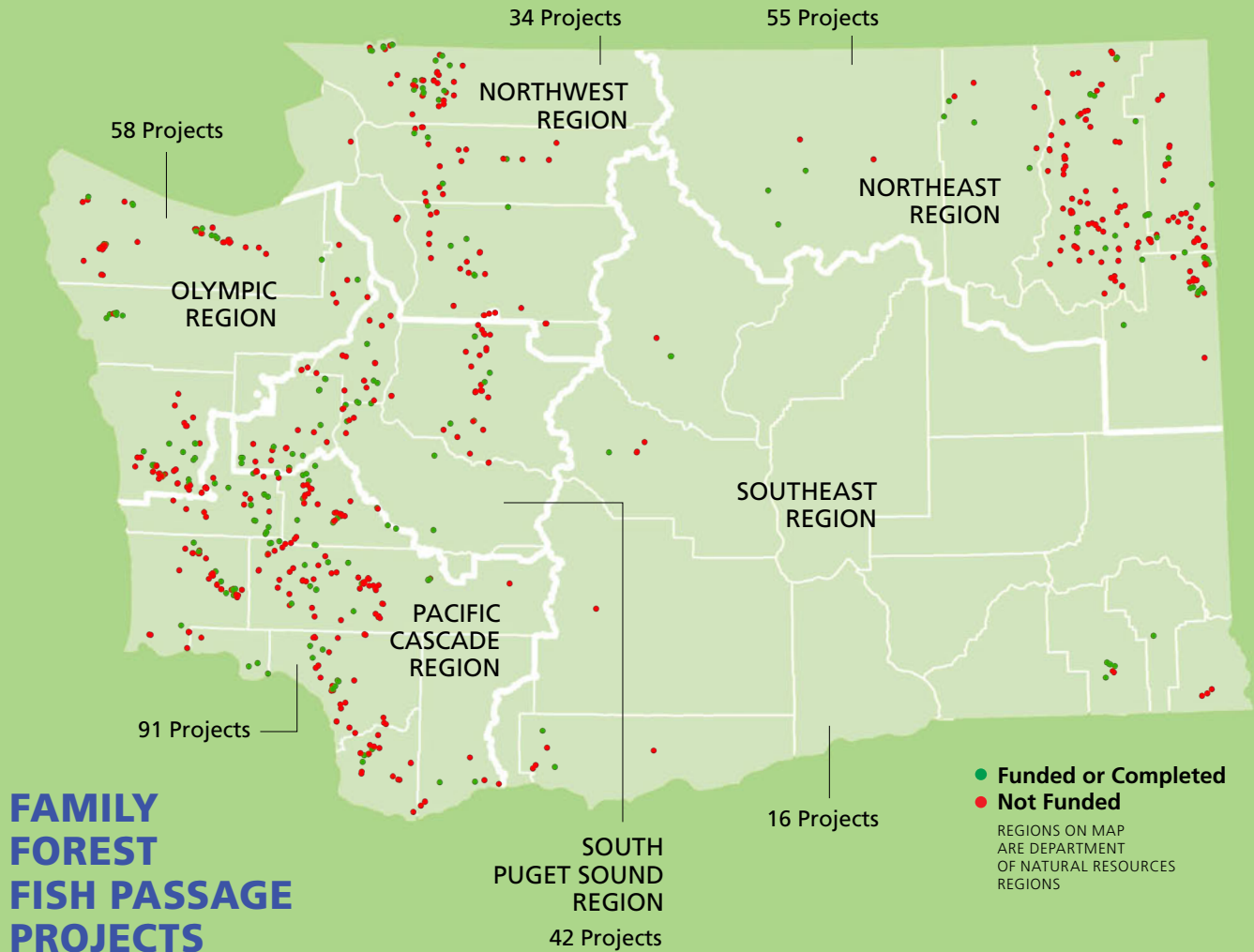
BEFORE

Outfall drop creating a barrier for both adult and juvenile fish.



AFTER

Final installation of the new fish passable culvert in Whatcom County.



 dnr.wa.gov/fffpp

New Video Highlights Program Benefits

A continued outreach effort to locate the highest quality projects is key to the success of the FFFPP. To assist with outreach, the program created an informational video, showcasing the benefits to landowners, fish, and rural communities.

Watch the video online at: www.dnr.wa.gov/fffpp

“OUR FFFPP PROJECTS ARE SOME OF OUR BEST SHOWCASED WORK—IT IS SUCH A GREAT PROGRAM, BRINGING THE PEOPLE AND RESOURCES TOGETHER FOR A MUTUAL BENEFIT.”

VICKI CARTER
SPOKANE CONSERVATION
DISTRICT DIRECTOR

ROAD TO RECOVERY

The Family Forest Fish Passage Program is implemented by three state agencies: Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources, and the Recreation and Conservation Office. Each agency brings expertise to oversee the program's operations, outreach, and project selection processes. The Washington Farm Forestry Association joins the agencies on a steering committee to approve annual projects. The Family Forest Fish Passage Program recognizes the critical role small forest landowners play in restoring salmon and trout populations. It also recognizes the important role of small forest landowners and their economic benefits to the state of Washington. The Family Forest Fish Passage Program benefits are seen through:

- Creating jobs and economic opportunities in rural communities.
- Assisting to fulfill treaty Indian Tribes fishing rights.
- Sustaining Washington's forest industry and encouraging renewable green products.
- Improving water quality in forested watersheds by reducing the amount of sediment that reaches streams and spawning areas.
- Minimizing flooding and the downstream harm to habitat and property.
- Helping the recovery of Puget Sound.

Local Groups are the Cornerstone to the Program

Local groups or sponsors experienced in fish passage restoration complete most of the projects. Sponsors manage the project design, construction oversight, permitting, billing, and grant management. A sponsor may be a conservation district, regional fisheries enhancement group, local fish-related non-profit organization, tribe, or other interested organization.

PROJECT SPONSORS

CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Asotin County, Cascadia, Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, East Klickitat, Ferry, Grays Harbor, Jefferson County, King County, Kitsap, Lewis County, Mason, Okanogan, Pacific, Pend Oreille, Spokane County, Stevens County, Thurston, Underwood, Wahkiakum.

REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUPS

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group
Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force
Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group
Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group
Mid-Sound Salmon Enhancement Group
Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Group
Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group
South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group
Stilly-Snohomish Task Force
Tri-State Steelheaders
Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group

PRIVATE SPONSORS

Frame, LLC
Hoh River Trust
Kittitas Conservation Trust
LWC Consulting
PB Lumber
Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition
Pacific Forest Management Stewardship Partners
Wild Fish Conservancy

TRIBES

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
Cowlitz Indian Tribe
Kalispel Tribe of Indians
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
Nooksack Indian Tribe
Spokane Tribe of Indians
Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians
Tulalip Tribes

Get More Information

Visit our website:
www.dnr.wa.gov/sflo

Program Partners

PROGRAM OUTREACH

Department of Natural Resources Small Forest Landowner Office

Natural Resources Building
1111 Washington Street
PO Box 47012
Olympia, WA 98504-7012
(360) 902-1404
TTY: (360) 902-1125, TRS: 411
www.dnr.wa.gov/sflo

PROJECT EVALUATION & RANKING

Department of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Management Program

600 Capitol Way
Olympia, WA 98501-1091
(360) 902-2352
TTY: (360) 902-2207
www.wdfw.wa.gov

PROGRAM FUNDING

Recreation and Conservation Office

Natural Resources Building
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
(360) 902-3000
TDD: (360) 902-1996
www.rco.wa.gov

LANDOWNER ORGANIZATION

Washington Farm Forestry Association

PO Box 1010
Chehalis, WA 98532
Contact: Sam Comstock
(360) 736-5750
www.wafarmforestry.com

The above agencies are responsible for implementing the program. The Washington Farm Forestry Association joins the agencies on a steering committee.